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Agenda item 19

Sustainable development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled:

"Sustainable development:

"(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

"(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"(c) Disaster risk reduction;

"(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;

"(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

"(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

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"(g) Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"(h) Harmony with Nature;

"(i) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy;

"(j) Sustainable mountain development"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 9th to 11th meetings, on 10 and 11 October, and took action on the item at its 20th, 22nd, 24th, 25th and 27th meetings, on 24 and 25 October and on 8, 18 and 30 November 2016. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 3 and 4 October.[2] An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 19
Sustainable development

Report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/71/76-E/2016/55)

Report of the Secretary-General on cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea (A/71/190)

Report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship for development (A/71/210)

Report of the Secretary-General on the oil slick on Lebanese shores (A/71/217)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora on the implementation of World Wildlife Day (A/71/215)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the global assessment of sand and dust storms (A/71/376)

Letter dated 29 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the fortieth annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 23 September 2016 (A/71/422)

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.9, A/C.2/71/SR.10, A/C.2/71/SR.11, A/C.2/71/SR.20, A/C.2/71/SR.22, A/C.2/71/SR.24, A/C.2/71/SR.25 and A/C.2/71/SR.27.

[2] See A/C.2/71/SR.2, A/C.2/71/SR.3, A/C.2/71/SR.4 and A/C.2/71/SR.5.

Letter dated 5 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Federated States of Micronesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/536)

Letter dated 4 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/537)

Letter dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 24 September 2016 (A/71/539)

Letter dated 8 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/607-S/2016/944)

Letter dated 4 October 2016 from the Permanent Representatives of Belarus and Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/2)

Letter dated 1 December 2016 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/6)

Item 19 (a)
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/71/212)

Report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources (A/71/260)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (A/71/320)

Letter dated 7 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/3)

Item 19 (b)
Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Secretary-General on the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations (A/71/265)

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the

Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/71/267 and A/71/267/Add.1)

Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: initial findings" (A/71/324 and A/71/324/Corr.1) and his comments thereon (A/71/324/Add.1)

Item 19 (c)
Disaster risk reduction

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (A/71/230)

Item 19 (d)
Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/71/216)

Note by the Secretariat providing an update on progress towards the development of an action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management (A/71/608)

Letter dated 30 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/5)

Item 19 (e)
Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/71/216)

Item 19 (f)
Convention on Biological Diversity

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/71/216)

Item 19 (g)
Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme on its second session (A/71/25)

Item 19 (h)
Harmony with Nature

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary report of the first virtual dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature among experts on Earth jurisprudence worldwide (A/71/266)

Item 19 (i)
Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy

Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy (A/71/220)

Item 19 (j)
Sustainable mountain development

Report of the Secretary-General on sustainable mountain development (A/71/256)

4. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs (under item 19 and sub-items (a), (b), (h), (i) and (j), as well as sub-item (d) on behalf of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change); the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (under sub-item 19 (c)); the Deputy Regional Director of the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau of Arab States (under item 19); the Deputy Director of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (under item 19 and sub-item (g)); the Chief of the New York Liaison Office of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (under sub-item 19 (e), on behalf of the Executive Secretary); and the Senior Policy Adviser in the New York Office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (under item 19). The Committee also heard a recorded statement by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity secretariat (under sub-item (f)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.2

5. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/71/L.2).

6. At its 24th meeting, on 8 November, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Thailand made a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.2 by a recorded vote of 156 to 8, with 6 abstentions (see para. 32, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, Tonga, Vanuatu.

9. Also at the 24th meeting, the representative of Israel made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote. A statement was made after the vote by the representative of Lebanon.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.4 and A/C.2/71/L.53

10. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77

and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Combating sand and dust storms" (A/C.2/71/L.4).

11. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Combating sand and dust storms" (A/C.2/71/L.53), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Díaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.4.

12. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53.[3] Subsequently, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Ethiopia) made a statement and orally corrected operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution.

13. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53.

14. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53, as orally corrected (see para. 32, draft resolution II).

15. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.4 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.21 and A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1

16. At the 22nd meeting, on 25 October, the representative of Lithuania, on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea" (A/C.2/71/L.21) and announced that Monaco and San Marino had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea" (A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1), submitted by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

18. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the seventh preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1.

19. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Spain) made a statement and announced that Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

[3] A/C.2/71/SR.27.

20. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

21. At the same meeting, the representative of the European Union made a statement.

22. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 32, draft resolution III).

23. Also at the 27th meeting, statements were made before the adoption of the draft resolution by the representatives of Colombia and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. A statement was made after the adoption of the draft resolution by the representative of Turkey.

D. Draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.20/Rev.1

24. At the 25th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Israel, on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Zambia, introduced and orally revised[4] a draft resolution entitled "Entrepreneurship for sustainable development" (A/C.2/71/L.20/Rev.1), and announced that Rwanda, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay had joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution. Subsequently, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar and Trinidad and Tobago also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

25. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

26. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.20/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 123 to 30, with 8 abstentions (see para. 32, draft resolution IV). The voting was as follows:[5]

[4] See A/C.2/71/SR.25.

[5] Subsequently, the Secretariat was informed by the delegation of Ghana that it had intended to vote in favour, and by the delegation of Turkey that it had intended to abstain.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia.

Against:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, China, Ecuador, Guinea, Mali, Niger, South Africa, Sri Lanka.

27. Also at the 25th meeting, the representatives of Greece and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements before the vote.

28. At the same meeting, a statement in explanation of vote was made before the vote by the representative of Algeria (on behalf of the Group of Arab States).

29. Also at the same meeting, statements were made after the vote by the representatives of Israel and Colombia.

30. At the same meeting, the observer for the State of Palestine made a statement after the vote.

E. Decision proposed by the Chair

31. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/71/76-E/2016/55) and the note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of World Wildlife Day (A/71/215).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

32. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010, 66/192 of 22 December 2011, 67/201 of 21 December 2012, 68/206 of 20 December 2013, 69/212 of 19 December 2014 and 70/194 of 22 December 2015 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[1] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195, 65/147, 66/192, 67/201, 68/206, 69/212 and 70/194,

Noting that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

Recalling that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 70/194, it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the General Assembly has yet to be implemented,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

Acknowledging also the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the Trust Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Reiterates*, for the eleventh consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;

4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,[5] with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;

5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the

[4] A/71/217.
[5] A/62/343.

destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at El-Jiyeh electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, particularly for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the Trust Fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

Draft resolution II
Combating sand and dust storms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling its resolution 70/195 of 22 December 2015 entitled "Combating sand and dust storms",

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/7 of 27 June 2014 on strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality,[3]

Noting the adoption, by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-second session, of resolution 72/7 of 19 May 2016 on regional cooperation to combat sand and dust storms in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in which it endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",

Recalling also its resolution 70/206 of 22 December 2015 on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in

[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[3] See UNEP/EA.1/10, annex I.

Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Taking note of the Regional Programme to Combat Sand and Dust Storms of the United Nations Environment Programme, and also taking note of other initiatives, including the ministerial meeting on sand and dust storms held in Nairobi on 21 February 2013 on the margins of the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, and recognizing that one of the priorities for action of the Framework is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Acknowledging that, based on the notion of hazards as defined in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[4] addressing multidimensional hazards, including those posed by sand and dust storms, contributes towards the achievement of the goals, targets and priorities for action set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,

Emphasizing the relevance of the efforts and cooperation of Member States at the regional and international levels to control and reduce the negative impacts of sand and dust storms on human settlements in vulnerable regions, taking note of the initiative of the Islamic Republic of Iran in hosting a regional meeting of environment ministers in Tehran on 29 September 2010, welcoming the holding of other meetings with the active participation of all countries, and taking note with appreciation of other ongoing initiatives by various countries to combat sand and dust storms, especially at the regional level,

Stressing the need for cooperation at the global and regional levels with a view to managing and mitigating the effects of sand and dust storms through enhancing early warning systems and the sharing of climate and weather information to forecast sand and dust storms, and affirming that resilient action to combat sand and dust storms requires a better understanding of the severe multidimensional impacts of sand and dust storms, including the deterioration of the health, well-being and livelihood of people, increased desertification and land degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and land productivity, and their impact on sustainable economic growth,

1. *Recognizes* that sand and dust storms and the unsustainable land-management practices, among other factors, that can cause or exacerbate these phenomena, including climate change, pose a serious challenge to the sustainable development of affected countries and regions, also recognizes that, in the past few years, sand and dust storms have inflicted substantial economic, social and

[4] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

environmental damage on the inhabitants of the world's arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas, especially in Africa and Asia, underscores the need to treat them and to promptly take measures to address those challenges, and decides to convene a high-level interactive dialogue of the General Assembly, during its seventy-second session, to discuss action-oriented recommendations to address the economic, social and environmental challenges of the affected countries, including ways to improve policy coordination at the global level to address those challenges in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals;[5]

2. *Acknowledges* the role of the United Nations development system in advancing international cooperation and support to combat sand and dust storms, and invites all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and all other related organizations to integrate, in their respective cooperation frameworks, operational programmes, measures and actions aimed at combating sand and dust storms so as to address this problem and contribute to the enhancement of, inter alia, capacity-building at the national level, the implementation of regional and subregional projects, the sharing of information, best practices and experiences and the boosting of technical cooperation in the affected countries and countries of origin, to improve the implementation of sustainable land management practices and to take measures to prevent and control the main factors of sand and dust storms and the development of early warning systems as tools to combat sand and dust storms in accordance with their strategic plans;

3. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional organizations and processes to continue to share best practices, experiences and technical expertise in combating sand and dust storms, including through improved implementation of sustainable land-management practices, and to promote regional cooperation in this matter;

4. *Invites* all affected Member States as well as relevant entities of the United Nations development system, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to endeavour to meet the objectives set out in the present resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and, among other factors, is a serious challenge to the sustainable development of all countries, including those affected by sand and dust storms;

6. *Commends* the commitment of the United Nations Environment Assembly to address sand and dust storms, and in this regard notes Environment Assembly resolution 2/21 of 27 May 2016 on sand and dust storms, adopted during its second session;[6]

7. *Acknowledges* the intention of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host an international event on combating sand and dust storms, with the cooperation of the

[5] See resolution 70/1.

[6] See UNEP/EA.2/19, annex I.

United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as other relevant United Nations entities, in 2017;

8. *Also acknowledges* the global assessment of sand and dust storms, prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities, including the World Meteorological Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/195 of 22 December 2015,[7] which sets out proposals for consolidated and coordinated technical and policy options for responding to sand and dust storms;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Combating sand and dust storms", unless otherwise agreed.

[7] See A/71/376.

Draft resolution III
Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/149 of 20 December 2010 and 68/208 of 20 December 2013,

Recalling also the relevant recommendations of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in June 1972,[1]

Noting the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992[2] and reaffirmed in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), adopted in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002,[3] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", adopted in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012,[4]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Recalling the efforts to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, including preventing and significantly reducing, by 2025, marine pollution of all kinds,[5]

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[6] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[7] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[8] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling relevant international and regional instruments such as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[9] the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter,[10] the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,[11] the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean,[12] the Agreement on the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Area of the South-East Pacific,[13] the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area[14] and the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic,[15]

Taking note of the ministerial declaration of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission), adopted in Copenhagen on 3 October 2013, in which the signatories recognized the need for forward-looking options for solutions and an assessment of the environmental risks posed by, inter alia, munitions dumped at sea, welcomed the 2013 report of the ad hoc expert group to update and review the existing information on dumped chemical munitions in the Baltic Sea and agreed to produce another one-off thematic assessment of the environmental risks of hazardous submerged objects, also utilizing the 2013 report on dumped chemical munitions, with the new assessment to be presented by 2018,[16]

[5] See resolution 70/1.
[6] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[8] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.
[9] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.
[10] Ibid., vol. 1046, No. 15749.
[11] Ibid., vol. 1506, No. 25974.
[12] Ibid., vol. 1102, No. 16908.
[13] Ibid., vol. 1648, No. 28325.
[14] Ibid., vol. 2099, No. 36495.
[15] Ibid., vol. 2354, No. 42279.
[16] See the findings of the Expert Group on Environmental Risks of Hazardous Submerged Objects of the Helsinki Commission, under the supervision of the Response Working Group of the Commission.

Noting the national, regional and international activities, including scientific research,[17] data collection and sharing, awareness-raising, reporting on encounters and technical advice, related to munitions dumped at sea, inter alia, in the frameworks of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic and the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean,

Emphasizing that, in the report on the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Third Review Conference), adopted at The Hague on 19 April 2013, the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction were invited to support voluntary sharing of information, raising awareness and cooperation on this issue,

Noting that Member States, international and regional organizations and civil society have undertaken activities to discuss and promote the issues related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, including international cooperation and the exchange of experiences and practical knowledge,

Noting also that the first global integrated marine assessment, also known as the World Oceans Assessment, which included a specific chapter on waste, was launched in 2015 and welcomed with appreciation by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/235 of 23 December 2015,[18]

Noting further the concerns about the potential long-term environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, including their potential impact on human health and safety and on the marine environment and resources,

Recognizing the mandates and capacities of competent United Nations system entities in the fields of marine environment monitoring, research and information-sharing, as well as pollution preparedness and response,[19]

Recognizing also the ongoing efforts aimed at awareness-raising, information-sharing and capacity-building at various levels, as well as partnership and cooperation on the issue among relevant regional and international bodies, including the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and others,[20]

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[17] See, for example, the findings of the Baltic Sea research project entitled "Chemical Munitions Search and Assessment (CHEMSEA)", which is conducting research on environmental effects related to chemical munitions dumped at sea. The findings summarize all results obtained by the project.

[18] See A/70/112 and A/71/190.

[19] Competent United Nations system entities include, inter alia, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Secretariat.

[20] See A/71/190.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[21] including the views submitted and contained therein;

2. *Notes* the importance of raising awareness of the environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

3. *Invites* Member States and relevant international and regional organizations to keep under observation the issue of the waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, to continue outreach efforts to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to that issue and to cooperate, including by strengthening existing efforts within regional seas conventions and other international, regional and subregional activities related to risk assessment, monitoring, information-gathering, risk prevention and response to incidents;

4. *Encourages* voluntary sharing of information on waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea through conferences, seminars, workshops, training courses and publications aimed at the general public and industry in order to reduce related risks;

5. *Also encourages* partnerships between Governments, industry and civil society for raising awareness, reporting and monitoring of waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

6. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so to consider providing assistance and sharing expertise aimed at building capacities related to risk assessment, monitoring, information-gathering, risk prevention and response to incidents resulting from waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

7. *Encourages* Member States to share experience, good practices and information on the technologies available to treat, conserve or safely destroy the waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of Member States and relevant regional and international organizations on cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of the environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, also with a view to exploring the possibility of establishing a database[22] and options for the most appropriate institutional framework for such a database, as well as identifying the appropriate intergovernmental bodies within the United Nations system for further consideration and implementation, as appropriate, of the cooperative measures envisaged in the present resolution, building on and without duplicating existing activities, and with a view to achieving efficiency and synergies, taking into account the mandates and capacities of relevant international and regional organizations;

[21] A/71/190.

[22] Such a database could contain relevant and voluntarily shared information on, inter alia, the location of dumping sites, the type, quantity and, to the extent possible, the current condition of chemical munitions, the recorded environmental impact, best practices on risk prevention and response to incidents or accidental encounters and destruction or impact reduction technologies, including by means of data collection and management.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, prepared using responses of Member States and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as other available information, and decides to include the item entitled "Sustainable development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, unless otherwise agreed.

Draft resolution IV
Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/202 of 21 December 2012 and 69/210 of 19 December 2014,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[1] and reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[2] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all the parties thereto to fully implement the Agreement, and the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA)

[1] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.
[2] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[4] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries: Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

Pathway,[5] the Vienna Declaration and Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,[6] taking note of Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and recognizing the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries,

Recalling also the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[7] the political declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-ninth session,[8] which reviewed the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the agreed conclusions adopted at its sixtieth session, entitled "Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development", and stressing that women and girls, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship and sustainable development,

Welcoming the contribution of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as well as the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that multi-stakeholder partnership and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of government and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, including developing countries, and in this regard taking note of the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth,

Emphasizing the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, and emphasizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires the talents, creativity and entrepreneurial vigour of the entire population,

Recognizing that entrepreneurship drives economic growth by creating jobs, promoting decent work and sustainable agriculture and fostering innovation,

Recognizing also the positive contribution entrepreneurship can make in promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including women, youth, persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable people,

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[5] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[6] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[7] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 59/1, annex.

Recognizing further that entrepreneurship can help to address environmental challenges through the introduction of new climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies and resilience measures, as well as by promoting environmentally sustainable practices and consumption patterns,

Deeply concerned by continued high rates of youth unemployment, particularly in developing countries, which stifle the transformative potential of young people in sustainable development,

Reaffirming its commitment to substantially increase the number of young people and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, job creation and entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services,

Recognizing the role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization that could contribute to job creation,

Noting with concern that societal attitudes and negative preconceptions, including fear of failure, lack of opportunity and insufficient support structures, can undermine efforts to create a culture of entrepreneurship,

Recognizing the importance of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for monitoring progress in the implementation of entrepreneurship policies and their direct and indirect contribution to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship for development;[a]

2. *Reiterates* the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and in that regard emphasizes the importance of improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and foster micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and stresses the positive role that entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

3. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop policies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to entrepreneurship that includes long-term and cross-sectoral strategies;

[a] A/71/210.

4. *Acknowledges* that promoting entrepreneurship can stimulate new production processes and technology development, including the building of endogenous capacities enabling climate change mitigation and adaptation and enhancing energy efficiency, and recognizes that such a policy, which could draw on the initiatives presented in the Global Climate Action Agenda, can help Governments to meet their targets for the Paris Agreement on climate change;[2]

5. *Also acknowledges* the important role that trade plays in creating the environment for encouraging competition, innovation and opportunity for entrepreneurs, and reaffirms in this regard the critical role that a rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, and multi-stakeholder initiatives such as eTrade for All, can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development as they advance towards sustainable development;

6. *Emphasizes* that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting workers' rights;

7. *Recognizes* the remarkable role of entrepreneurship in the development of regional economic integration, which can be an important catalyst for implementing economic reforms, reducing trade barriers and decreasing trade costs;

8. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, especially in rural areas, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of services to such populations, increase access to information and promote financial literacy, particularly for women and youth and the most vulnerable people;

9. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing, including blended finance as well as impact investing, cooperatives and venture philanthropy, and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and also encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

10. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy and integrating them into national social security systems, as appropriate, including by simplifying administrative processes, for example, enabling business registration through single-window and e-registration procedures, and notes that recommendation No. 204 of the International Labour Organization can provide useful guidance on the transition from the informal to the formal economy;

11. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve

their competitiveness and increase their productive capacities, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange and transfer, innovation, capacity-building programmes and the sharing of best practices for promoting entrepreneurship;

12. *Also recognizes* that entrepreneurs can address sustainable development challenges by developing effective and simple solutions in the areas of utility services, education, health care, hunger eradication and the environment, and that social entrepreneurship, including cooperatives and social enterprises, can help to alleviate poverty and catalyse social transformation by strengthening the productive capacities of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, and producing goods and services accessible to them;

13. *Acknowledges* the value of entrepreneurship education and the dissemination of entrepreneurial thinking across all sectors, and encourages all relevant actors to increase efforts to systemically integrate entrepreneurship within the formal and informal education system, including through, inter alia, skills development, capacity-building, professional training programmes and business incubators, as well as online platforms and e-mentorships, while fostering innovation and using innovative teaching methods in line with the demands of the competitive markets and ensuring the full participation of women and girls;

14. *Encourages* all stakeholders, in particular women and young entrepreneurs, to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges, and emphasizes that local innovation and entrepreneurship systems need to be able to fully participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[10] including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that concerted efforts are needed to ensure the participation of all;

15. *Highlights* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs and those that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to increase investments in women-owned companies and businesses and to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, administration and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, in particular by financial institutions;

16. *Recognizes* that social entrepreneurship can create alternative sustainable models of production, finance and consumption to respond to social, economic and environmental issues, also recognizes the need to implement policies and programmes aimed at supporting social entrepreneurship, and encourages Governments to set up an environment conducive to social innovation;

17. *Also recognizes* that harnessing entrepreneurial talents among young people is vital for increasing productive capacities, developing new forms of

[10] Resolution 70/1.

entrepreneurship focused on information and communications technology, big data, digitalization, smart cities and creating start-ups, generating full and productive employment and inclusive economic growth, and encourages Member States to integrate youth entrepreneurship strategies and innovative programmes into their national policies, create a nurturing environment for the full realization of the rights and capabilities of young people, and increase investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through impact investment favouring the poorest and most vulnerable, entrepreneurial education, youth capacity-building and information and communications technology;

18. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis and without discrimination on the basis of disability, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, and notes that further efforts are needed to increase awareness of the ability of persons with disabilities to innovate and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through entrepreneurship;

19. *Stresses* the need to highlight the value of entrepreneurship and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including, inter alia, the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by promoting policies, initiatives and programmes that support the development of an enabling entrepreneurial ecosystem, including by raising public awareness, reinforcing local support networks and employing specific measures aimed at removing negative preconceptions;

20. *Also stresses* the importance of indicators that can be used to formulate targeted entrepreneurship policies and measure their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard encourages Member States, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to further identify and develop indicators at the national and regional levels as appropriate, and to continue contributing to the work of the Statistical Commission on the global indicator framework;

21. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

22. *Acknowledges* that the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and stresses the need for Member States to develop policies and, where appropriate, strengthen national and international policy regulatory frameworks and their coherence, harnessing the potential of science, technology and innovation, closing technology gaps and scaling up capacity-building at all levels to better align private sector incentives with public goals, including incentivizing the private sector to adopt sustainable practices, and foster long-term quality investment, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility, as reflected in the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact, environmental, social and governance performance standards and greater transparency in supply chains to avoid forced and child labour abuse;

23. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, as appropriate, and invites the United Nations system, and in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue to provide support to and assist Member States, at their request, to identify, formulate, implement and assess coherent policy measures on entrepreneurship and the promotion of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

24. *Encourages* countries to consider establishing or strengthening national centres of excellence in entrepreneurship and similar bodies, and also encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices;

25. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to the contribution of entrepreneurship to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include the item entitled "Sustainable development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, unless otherwise agreed.